

**SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

**ACT NO. 9 OF 1991**

**SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES LAW LIBRARY  
ACT, 1991**

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SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

ACT NO. 9 OF 1991

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I ASSENT

DAVID E. JACK  
Governor-General  
8th March, 1991

AN ACT to provide for the establishment of a Law Library in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and other purposes connected therewith.

[2nd April, 1991]

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Assembly of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Law Library Act, 1991 and shall come into effect on such date as the Governor-General may by proclamation published in the Gazette, appoint.

Short Title and  
Commencement

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

Interpretation.

“Committee” means the governing body referred to in section 5 of this Act;

“donation” includes a gift and a present;

“Law Library” means the reference law library established under section 3 of this Act;

“legal community” includes members of the judiciary, attorneys, barristers and solicitors in Government Service and in private practice, and a student registered to read law at a recognised university or school of law;



“publication” includes a book, periodical, pamphlet, journal and any other library material.

Establishment of library

3. There is hereby established for the benefit of the legal community a reference law library for St. Vincent and the Grenadines to be known as the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Law Library.

Property of the library

4. (1) The property of the Law Library comprises:

- (a) any publication or document which forms part of any material collected for the purposes of the Law Library.
- (b) a publication or document which is acquired, whether by donation or purchase, for the purposes of the Law Library; and
- (c) any other property acquired by the Law Library for its purposes.

(2) The property of the Law Library is vested in the Law Library Committee.

Governing body

5. (1) The governing body of the Law Library is a committee which shall be called the Law Library Committee.

(2) The Committee shall consist of:

- (a) the Resident Judge;
- (b) the Attorney General;
- (c) the Registrar of the High Court;
- (d) the Solicitor General;
- (e) the Senior Magistrate;
- (f) two members of the legal profession appointed annually by Cabinet; and
- (g) the Law Librarian

(3) The Resident Judge shall be the Chairman of the Committee.

(4) Any of the members of the Committee referred to in paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of the section may resign from the Committee by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman of the Committee.

6. The functions of the Committee include:-

Functions of the Governing Body

- (a) the general management and control of the Law Library; and
- (b) the supervision of the Law Librarian and of the senior staff of the Law Library.

7. (1) The Chairman shall preside at the meetings of the Committee and in the absence of the Chairman at a meeting of the Committee, the Attorney General shall act as Chairman. In the absence of both the Chairman and the Attorney General, the members present shall appoint one of their number present to preside at the meeting.

Meetings of Governing Body

(2) Subject to subsection (3), no decision on a matter which, in the opinion of the person presiding, is a matter of importance for determination by the Committee shall be taken by the Committee unless:-

- (a) not less than four members of the Committee are present at the meeting; and
- (b) the four members present vote in favour of the matter for determination.

(3) Where not less than four members of the Committee agree in writing on a matter of importance for determination by the Committee no meeting need be held in respect of that matter.

(4) At all other meetings of the Committee the person presiding and three other members of the Committee form the quorum for the meeting.

(5) Where there is an equality of votes on a matter for determination before the Committee at a meeting the person presiding shall have a second or casting of vote.

(6) The Law Librarian shall not vote at any meeting of the Committee.

(7) The Committee shall, subject to this section, regulate its own procedure at its meetings.

8. (1) The funds of the Law Library consist of:-

Funds of the Library

- (a) grants-in-aid from the Government;
- (b) fees and fines paid to the Law Library;



- (c) donations in cash made to the Law Library by a person or body of persons or other benefactor;
  - (d) the annual subscriptions paid by members for the use of the Law Library;
  - (e) moneys collected by, or paid to, the Law Library in respect of the use of the facilities of the Law Library by any person; and
  - (f) moneys paid to the Law Librarian in respect of the sale or disposal of any material of the Law Library not needed for the purposes of the Law Library.
- (2) The records and books of account kept by the Law Librarian shall be audited not later than three months after the end of the financial year by the Director of Audit or by an auditor appointed by Cabinet.

aw Librarian

9. Subject to the general directions of the Committee on the general administration and policy of the Law Library, the Law Librarian shall be responsible:-

- (a) for the proper administration of the Law Library;
- (b) for the acquisition, collection, purchase, organisation and maintenance of publications;
- (c) for the development of research aids and services in the Law library;
- (d) for the proper keeping of books of account and all other records of the Law Library;
- (e) for the preparation of the estimates of expenditure of the Law library;
- (f) for the preparation of an annual report on the working of the Law Library.

egulations

10. The Committee shall issue Regulations providing for:-

- (a) the opening hours of the Law Library;
- (b) the admission to membership of the Law Library of a member of the legal community and of any other person, the subscriptions payable for membership, and the method of payment of the subscriptions;

- (c) the purchase, preservation and the loan of publications;
- (d) the maintenance of good order in the Law Library;
- (e) the payment of fees for the use of the facilities of the Law Library;
- (f) the payment of fines in respect of:-
  - (i) the late return of a publication borrowed from the Law Library; or
  - (ii) the loss of, or damage to, a publication;
- (g) the exclusive use of the Law Library as a place for academic or professional study and for research; and
- (h) sanctions for the infringement by any person of a provision of the Regulations.

11. Repeal. The Law Library Act, 1946 is hereby repealed.

Passed in the House of Assembly this 14th day of February, 1991

J. THERESA ADAMS  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

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